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#3A  
7-19-02  
NIP-243

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

M. NISHIDA et al

Serial No. 09/940,593

Group Art Unit: ~~1744~~ 1743

Filed: August 29, 2001

For: REAGENT SETUP METHOD AND REAGENT  
SETUP PROCESSING EQUIPMENT

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified  
application as follows:

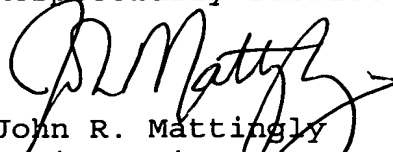
IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 7-9.

REMARKS

Examination is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
John R. Mattingly  
Registration No. 30,293  
Attorney for Applicants

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Date: July 16, 2002

PATENT

Case Docket No. NIP-243

RE application of M. NISHIDA et al

Serial No.: 09/940,593

Group Art Unit: 1744

Filed: August 29, 2001

Examiner:

For: REAGENT SETUP METHOD AND REAGENT SETUP  
PROCESSING EQUIPMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in the above-identified application.

- ☐ Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a verified statement previously submitted.
- ☐ A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.
- ☒ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

(COL. 1)		(COL. 2)		(COL. 3)
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra
Total	6	Minus	20	= 0
Indep.	5	Minus	7	= 0
<input type="checkbox"/> First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claims				

SMALL ENTITY	
Rate	Additional Fee
x 9	\$
x 42	\$
+ 140	\$
Total	\$

OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	
Rate	Additional Fee
x 18	\$ 0
x 84	\$ 0
+ 280	\$ 0
Total	\$ 0

- \* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write '0' in Col. 3.
- .. If the 'Highest Number Previously Paid For' IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write '20' in this space.
- ... If the 'Highest Number Previously Paid For' IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write '3' in this space.
- The 'Highest Number Previously Paid For' (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col. 1 of a prior Amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

- ☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 50-1417 in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is attached in payment of:\_\_\_\_\_.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.
- ☒ Any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims.
- ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.
- ☒ Any Extension of Time fees that are necessary, which are hereby requested if necessary.

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C.  
1800 Diagonal Rd., Suite 370  
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Date: July 16, 2002

By:

*John R. Mattingly*  
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TC 1700